

San Antonio Union School District

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RESPONSE TO THE MONTEREY COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT OF JAN. 2000

Required response to recommendations one through four on page 9.

1. School Board Members and Superintendents use STAR results to evaluate assignment of personnel.

RESPONSE:

Current legislative Educational Codes in California do not allow a school district to evaluate teachers on the results of student standardized tests. The current labor contract with the teachers does not allow for this, i.e., based on STAR student performance, however, we do assign instructional aides using the aforementioned as one of the criteria.

2. Hiring practices ensure that certificated teachers are placed in the classroom. While it is recognized not every excellent teacher is fully certificated, it is counterproductive to have a high percentage not fully certificated.

RESPONSE:

It has always been the goal of the San Antonio Union Elementary School District to employ certificated teachers as possible, who fit into the design of our school system. We have averaged about only one emergency permit out of twelve certificated positions. This is far less than the state average, which is 19%, according to the 1998 status of the teaching profession summary report of California.

3. School Board Members search their collective conscience to determine if school funds could be better spent on students rather than on individuals performing what is a public service.

RESPONSE:

It has always been in the forefront of the San Antonio School Board of Trustees that they are in the service of the students and the educational needs. Each School Board Member is paid a small amount of money monthly, which each Board Member then donates their entire salary into a student scholarship fund.

4. Each school district ensure that programs in place to help prevent school crime and vandalism are monitored. Those found guilty of crimes be prosecuted to the M extent of the law.

RESPONSE:

The school does do an active part in education against crime activities. There are very few cases each year. However, the school district has no control over crimes being prosecuted to the full extent of the law; this is the responsibility of the District Attorney's Office.

Mission Statement:

We are committed to provide quality, active education, focusing on life skills for the whole child, recognizing and appreciating cultural diversity and preparing them for the transition into high school and a life of success and contribution in the world.